Established in 1981, the Canadian Federation of Students is the largest student organization in Canada, uniting more than 650,000 college, undergraduate and graduate students from coast to coast. Our ultimate goal is to achieve a universal system of high-quality, public, post-secondary education in Canada that is tuition-free for domestic and international students.
MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

Shé: kon, Kwey, Ahniin, Tansi, Bonjour, Hello:

It has been an honour serving as your Chairperson for the 2017-18 term. Over this past year, our movement has seen both great victories and immense difficulties. Despite these difficulties, students continue to organize and our movement continues in its resiliency to delivery results.

This year your At-Large and National Executive team have overseen the Federation’s first Fairness for International Students Week, launching new campaign materials, arranging for lobby meetings dedicated to the issues faced by international students, and centering their issues at the heart of our movement.

We were also proud to work with student organizers in New Brunswick to implement a provincial lobby week in that province. We welcome a new member Local 114 l’Association étudiante de l’université de Hearst and as well as a new prospective member in Mature and Part-time Students (MAPUS) at the University of Prince Edward Island.

In the Federal budget 2018, we saw a major victory in the largest single investment ($1.7 billion) in investigator-led, fundamental research. This victory was the result of years of advocacy out of our National Graduate Caucus (NGC) and through solidarity work with the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT).

We have taken action on directives set by our members and worked to co-develop new campaigns around reconciliation and harm reduction. We have organized against an austerity-driven government in Manitoba, around a provincial election in Ontario, against racist attacks on campus in Saskatchewan, against a government in Nova Scotia that refuses to pass legislation mandating sexual assault policies on campus, and working with the 100 percent united province of Newfoundland and Labrador to challenge the narrative of austerity and rising fees.

While we face a potential dramatic shift in membership, we are optimistic that our movement will continue to remain resilient and be more emboldened in our fight for students on campus, in government meetings, and in the streets. This fight however needs all of you, and we hope that over the course of this upcoming year, you and thousands of others will be more motivated than ever to organize for students and marginalized communities in the lead-up to the 2019 federal election.

In Solidarity,

Coty Zachariah
Member local students’ unions set the priorities and direction of the Canadian Federation of Students.

Each year, the Federation holds national general meetings where delegates vote on motions brought forward by member local students’ unions as well as discuss and set up the plan for the student movement for the next six months. During the meetings, sub-committees, constituency groups, caucuses and provincial components discuss these motions and offer amendments before all member local students’ unions vote on them. The smaller meeting spaces also discuss different perspectives, campaigns and services and look for ways to implement them. With the principle of ‘one member, one vote,’ each member local students’ union has an equal say in all major decisions.

The National Executive Committee is comprised of representatives elected by member local students’ unions. This body implements decisions in between meetings with the support of Federation staff.
CAMPAIGNS
Free Education Now: Fight the Fees is the Federation’s campaign calling for the elimination of tuition fees and student debt, and demanding increases to institutional funding. Campaign materials, including postcards, leaflets, buttons and stickers, continue to be made available and distributed on member local campuses. A re-order of campaign materials was placed mid-year after the majority of materials ordered were depleted.

On February 1, National Deputy Chairperson Charlotte Kiddell spoke on a panel organized by Local 41, the Student Federation of the University of Ottawa (SFUO), for the Ontario Day of Action. The topic of the panel was “Fairness for Students”. Kiddell made remarks on students’ access to services such as healthcare and childcare within a context of chronically underfunded post-secondary education.
TUITION FEE HIJES/ TOWN HALLS

The Federation is in the midst of developing resources to help students organize against tuition fee hikes on campus at the Board of Governor’s level. We will continue to provide assistance requested from locals to organize around these votes.

The Federation is also planning and hosting a number of town halls across the country this spring, to discuss a number of items related to student fees and services. The first took place in Charlottetown, with Senator Percy Downe discussing education and tax evasion; the second in Winnipeg, covering fairness for international students; and the third in Halifax, on the unique struggles of student parents.

LAUNCH OF NOT IN OUR INTEREST CAMPAIGN

Students are taking on more and more debt to obtain an education increasingly required in our modern job market. While the level of tuition fees and student debt are staggering figures unto themselves that should be addressed, interest rates charged on Canada Student Loans add further burden to indebted students. By reducing and eliminating interest rates, current and future student loan borrowers will save thousands of dollars every year.

The Federation has developed a subsection of the Free Education campaign, which calls for the elimination of interest on federal student loans. This sub-campaign has been titled Not In Our Interest. Discussions with Federal government stakeholders has begun, in addition to a robust digital campaign, including shareables, targeted advertising and an online petition. National Treasurer Veitch met with the Canada Student Loans Program (CSLP) administration and participated in a conference call with the Department of Finance with fellow At-Large members and staff to lobby for the elimination of interest rates on federal student loans.
From Piecemeal Reform to Universal Access (February 2018) put forward our ideas to Ottawa’s decision-makers, over 100 of whom (Members of Parliament and Senators) we lobbied from February 5-9, 2018, as part of our National Lobby Week.

The Federation contributed to the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternative’s 2018 Alternative Federal Budget: Getting There, by drafting the chapter on post-secondary education (see p. 112 of the document).

At this general meeting, the Federation will be releasing a new research report on Education Justice, which elaborates how access to education is an issue of equity and social justice.

Research priorities for the campaign moving forward will include:

- A comparative analysis of provincial funding / tuition / student aid policies, with a particular focus on the new “free tuition” grant programs in Ontario and New Brunswick, and which makes the case for universality over targeted grant programs;
- An analysis of trends pertaining to, and key needs for, international students;
- An analysis of Indigenous Treaty Rights and implications for post-secondary funding;
- A short research paper comparing the struggles by students for free education in Canada, Quebec, Chile and South Africa; and
- A survey of the key arguments opponents of free education (campus executives, post-secondary consultants and financial services companies) use to pushback.
The Federation has launched the new Fairness for International Students campaign, which seeks to end legislated discrimination against international students, combat xenophobia and prejudicial myths about international students and ensure accountability in recruitment of international students.

**FAIRNESS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS WEEK**

The first national Fairness for International Students Week was launched on March 26th, and included a digital campaign with fact-based and customizable shareables, social media materials, an informational booklet, and a lobby document.

The Fairness for International Students Week also included lobby meetings and connecting national and provincial offices to discuss cross-province impacts of provincial budgets on International students. Over the course of this week, International Students’ Commissioner Mary Asekome, Researcher Rick Telfer and National Treasurer Peyton Veitch attended meetings with Members of Parliament to discuss the unique issues pertaining to international students.

The Newfoundland and Labrador component hosted two Fairness for International Students Forums, in Corner Brook and Saint John’s. National Deputy Chairperson Charlotte Kiddell resourced both, while Asekome attended the Saint John’s Forum and Manitoba Chairperson, Dele Ojewole joined by videoconference.

**RESEARCH**

The Federation will also be producing a historical overview of legislated discrimination of international students in Canada, with the goal of identifying and highlighting previous victories and future areas of interest to this campaign.

**NEW MATERIALS**

Campaign materials have been developed and are available for order. The materials include a button, poster and sticker. The Federation also introduced a campaign video that includes interviews with international students who share their experiences on campuses across the country.
The Federation, in response to a unanimously passed motion at the November General Meeting, is in the process of developing a national campaign to advocate for the introduction of Indigenous language programs at post-secondary institutions across the country. The work on this campaign has been in partnership with the University of Manitoba Aboriginal Students’ Association (UMASA) and members at Local 103, the University of Manitoba Students’ Union, and spearheaded by the Circle of First Nations, Métis and Inuit Students.

**RECONCILIATION CAMPAIGN SOFT LAUNCH**

On March 27th, National Chairperson Coty Zachariah travelled to the University of Manitoba for the initial launch of the new ReconciliAction campaign that focuses on creating working groups on campuses to lobby administrations to create Indigenous language programs and degrees. He spoke on a panel about what language inclusion means to students who are studying in colleges and universities.

**NEW MATERIALS**

The new branding and poster of the Reconcili-Action campaign were launched at the event in March, and are now being developed into a full suite of materials. In accordance with the goals of this campaign, the Federation is currently investigating the translation of campaign materials into a number of Indigenous languages, for both this campaign and others.
WHERE’S THE JUSTICE

Where’s the Justice? Is a central campaign of the Circle of First Nations, Métis and Inuit Students. The campaign has three pillars:

Access to Education: Pursuing the removal of barriers to access both outside the classroom (e.g. Post-Secondary Student Support Program funding) and within the classroom (e.g. Indigenizing and decolonizing curriculum).


Land and Water Rights: Advocating for Nation-to-Nation relations and the respect of Indigenous rights and titles, challenging environmental degradation and calling for an end to all water advisories in First Nations communities.

ELDERS GATHERING – TRENT UNIVERSITY

From March 1st – 4th, National Chairperson Coty Zachariah, with other members of the Federation including Circle Chairperson Phyllis McKenna, attended the annual Elders Gathering highlighting Indigenous education, held at Trent University. This conference highlights Indigenous knowledge in academia, and critiques the ways that institutions incorporate and support that into curriculum.

SOUTHERN CHIEFS ORGANIZATION

On March 28th, Zachariah spoke to youth at the SCO about the campaigns and services work that we do for Indigenous youth across the country. He shared campaign materials and discussed the May standalone meeting of the Circle of First Nations, Métis and Inuit Students.

INDIGENOUS SERVICES CANADA’S “EDUCATION REVIEW”

On May 15, the Federation and the Circle made a submission to the federal government’s review of education programs for Indigenous learners, making a series of recommendations to improve both access and support for these students.
Enjoy your copyrights

Enjoy your copyrights

How’s your copyright?

 replacement gency textbooks with an affordable coursepack.

photocopy a book chapter for class.

show a short video as part of a lesson.

share a journal article with fellow students and teachers.

use photos from a book for a class presentation.

Now it’s time to protect your rights.

Enjoy your copyrights

COPYRIGHT COALITION MEETINGS

The Federation sits on a coalition of Post-secondary Education copyright partners invested in the parliamentary review of The Copyright Act. The coalition includes the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT), the Canadian Association of Research Librarians (CARL), Campus Bookstores Canada, Universities Canada, the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA), amongst others.

STATUTORY REVIEW OF THE COPYRIGHT ACT

On April 17th, National Deputy Chairperson Charlotte Kiddell presented her testimony to the Standing Committee on Industry, Science and Technology for their Statutory Review of the Copyright Act.

NEW MATERIALS

Member locals are now able to order Protect Your Copyrights materials, including a poster and bookmark. The Federation and CAUT also developed a short animated video on the issue.

Fair dealing means that you can access a certain amount of copyrighted materials, like a book chapter, journal article or video, without paying or asking for permission if you are using it for education or research purposes. In 2012, students and academic staff won fair dealing for the education community.

This past fall, the federal government began reviewing the Copyright Act, which includes fair dealing. The corporate publishing industry is working hard to have fair dealing overturned and the education community has begun to organize to fight back.

The Federation has partnered with the Canadian Association of University Teachers to redevelop the Protect Your Copyrights campaign. The campaign seeks to educate staff, faculty and students on the important rights fair dealing currently offers and encourage the education community to pressure the federal government on these rights in the upcoming review of the Copyright Act.

In 2012, students and academic staff won educational fair dealing rights, meaning you can use a certain amount of copyrighted materials, like a book chapter, journal article or video, without paying or asking for permission if the purpose is for education or research. Fair dealing is also part of a broader movement to make educational resources more available, including free open access journals, free open education textbooks and cost-saving site licenses with individual publishers.

But fair dealing is now under attack from corporate publishing interests. Students and academic staff must fight to defend our rights to create, access, and share literary and artistic works.

Why is fair dealing under attack?

Rather than admit that high prices and structural changes in the industry are driving their customers away, corporate publishing cartels prefer to blame fair dealing for their troubles — and are demanding the education sector subsidize their profits by paying outrageous sums for material that is available for free or for greatly reduced rates elsewhere.

What now?

This year, the federal government will review the Copyright Act, including fair dealing. The corporate publishing industry is working hard to have fair dealing overturned. It’s time for the education community to push back.

PROTECT YOUR COPYRIGHTS

The Federation sits on a coalition of Post-secondary Education copyright partners invested in the parliamentary review of The Copyright Act. The coalition includes the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT), the Canadian Association of Research Librarians (CARL), Campus Bookstores Canada, Universities Canada, the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA), amongst others.
The Federation’s *End the Ban* campaign seeks to remove blood donation deferral policies of any length for guys who have sex with guys, and those who have sex with them, and trans women.

**E PETITION**

An e-petition, petition E-1589, has been introduced in the House of Commons calling for the end of the discriminatory ban. The Federation has shared this e-petition and is examining how to restart stakeholder consultations on this issue with the government and Canadian Blood Services.

**UPDATED MATERIALS**

To reflect more recent statistics and the recent change in legislation to a one-year ban, the Federation has updated the *End the Ban* leaflet, which is available for order. This material was developed in consultation with the AIDS Committee of Ottawa.

The Federation’s long-standing anti-sexual and gender-based violence campaign has been instrumental in raising awareness and shifting the culture surrounding consent, sexual- and gender-based violence and rape culture.

On January 19, Kiddell, Sohani, and De Jaegher attended a day-long Stakeholder Engagement Session with Statistics Canada and Status of Women to provide input on the development of a survey on post-secondary students’ experience of sexualized violence. I provided feedback on proposed survey themes and data collection and dissemination strategy.

On March 2, Kiddell met with policy staff for Status of Women, where they discussed students’ concerns about the survey on campus sexual violence being developed by Statistics Canada and Status of Women, and students’ participation in developing the National Framework to Address Gender-Based Violence that was announced in Budget 2018. Following the meeting, Kiddell submitted recommendations for student participation in developing the Framework.

**NEW MATERIALS**

In response to discussions at several national general meetings, the Federation has updated the Consent is Mandatory rave card to include a simplified explanation of what consent means and looks like in practice.
This campaign aims to promote awareness and provide education about racism and colonialism on campuses as something that impacts students in their post-secondary experience. It also works to build a standing network of students across the country to organize and share best practices to combat racism and colonialism on their campuses.

At the 36th Annual General Meeting, Racialized Students’ Representative, Leila Moumouni-Tchouassi facilitated a debrief and next steps discussion about the Racialized and Indigenous Student Experience Summit. A key outcome of the discussion was a plan to initiate regional working groups as part of the RISE Standing Committee.

Moumouni-Tchouassi is overseeing the development of a Campus Toolkit for Combating Racism to help members develop campaign goals and strategies for combatting racism on campus.

The Not Your Stereotype campaign challenges cultural appropriation, which is the act of taking certain elements of a culture or community of which you do not identify, often for artificial or leisurely purposes. The hashtag #notyourstereotype was created to encourage Indigenous people to identify instances of cultural appropriation on their own terms and in their own words.
REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE

This national campaign has been developed to oppose anti-choice groups on campuses and to push for access to better education about sexuality and sexual health and better access to services related to reproductive justice. The Federation has created print materials, including a poster, leaflet and buttons.

ORGANIZING TOOLKIT

The Federation is developing an organizing toolkit that will include template letters to administrations to address the presence of anti-choice groups on campus, a checklist to ensure that students’ unions are supportive of reproductive justice and sexual health, and resources to outline the rights of pro-choice protesters on campus to supplement the already developed digital materials.

CUSTOM MATERIALS

A number of campuses across the country dealing with aggressive anti-choice protesters have been directly contacting the Federation, and have had custom materials created for their particular needs.
TRANS HEALTHCARE

Although many provincial governments provide some level of legislative protections for trans communities, most provinces do not guarantee access to gender affirming medical services or accommodations under the public healthcare system. Access to comprehensive and inclusive public healthcare is a right for all.

The Federation has developed an informational postcard for order in the campaigns catalogue and will be working to support existing provincial and national organizations calling for inclusive healthcare coverage that adequately responds to the needs of trans communities.

COALITION WORK

Most recently, we have tentatively reached an agreement with Trans Health Information Ottawa to help develop a more specific policy and action guide.

The Federation has also continued discussion with coalition partners, specifically the Canadian Labour Congress, on ensuring that any calls for universal pharmacare are trans-inclusionary.

PLEDGE POSTCARDS

Delegates to the November General Meeting filled out pledges to support trans students on their campuses on postcards, with a focus on this campaign, which were mailed to each local. This initiative intended to focus locals on taking tangible actions to enhance equity for trans individuals. Over a dozen pledges included organizing efforts around trans health issues.

GO FOSSIL FREE

The Federation is in the midst of discussion with 350.org about taking a more active role is resourcing divestment organizing on university campuses, including the University of Guelph, where two field organizers have been working on the active divestment campaign.

Fossil Free is “A worldwide campaign to end the age of fossil fuels and accelerate a fair transition to 100% renewable energy for all.”
NO ISLAMOPHOBIA, NO ANTI-SEMITISM, NO XENOPHOBIA

This campaign seeks to raise awareness about the need to combat Islamophobia, Anti-Semitism and Xenophobia on campuses and in communities. The Federation aims to empower students’ unions, campus groups and students to combat Islamophobia, Anti-Semitism and Xenophobia, and ensure that post-secondary institutions adhere to principles that protect the safety and the livelihood of these students.

NEW MATERIALS

The Federation has been participating in a full re-development of the materials for this campaign, with the introduction of a number of more tangible action plans. Currently, the re-design is being done with the consultation of a number of NE members and provincial offices, with the full development expected to be prepared for the June General Meeting. Distinct No Islamophobia materials will be part of this re-design.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS GUIDE

The Federation has begun working with the National Council of Canadian Muslims to co-develop a Know Your Rights guide for Muslim post-secondary students which will include “legal information and best practices to help students navigate encounters involving religious accommodations, campus security/police, CSIS on campus, discriminatory practice, and harassment and bullying.”
HARM REDUCTION CAMPAIGN

The Federation, in response to the motion passed at the November General Meeting, began exploring the existence of a national harm reduction campaign. Due to the vast difference in acceptance of harm reduction from province to province, no such campaign appears to currently exist. Initial work has included outreach and consultation with over 30 service providers across the country, covering each province, a variety of urban and rural locations, and services that cater specifically to different marginalized groups, including women, Indigenous people, survivors of sexual violence, LGBTQIA2S+ individuals and students.

Each of these potential coalition partners is answering a base set of questions. From the responses from these organizations, next steps will be established.
GOVERNMENT
RELATIONS
Lobby Week 2018 gave students from across the country the opportunity to network with over 100 decision-makers. We were able to create personal connections with MPs and Senators from across the political spectrum and were able to have productive discussions and commitments to support.

Lobby document recommendations included:

- Eliminating tuition fees for all students and restoring core federal funding for post-secondary education.
- Honouring Canada’s treaty commitments on post-secondary education for Indigenous peoples.
- Increasing funding for postsecondary research and scholarships.
- Eliminating interest rates on federal student loans.
- Maintaining the current fair dealing provisions in Canada’s Copyright Act.
- Funding for Indigenous language programs at the post-secondary level.

All recommendations were costed and revenue-raising opportunities identified.
Federation staff, Treasurer Veitch, and Chairperson Zachariah took part in the Economists’ and Stakeholders’ Lockups, for the advance release of the 2018 federal budget. Deputy Chairperson Kiddell was on Parliament Hill to participate in the media scrum for the release of Budget 2018. Her response included students’ victories, such as a $1.7 billion investment in basic research, as well students’ concerns that the so-called “Gender Budget” failed to make any investment in the up-front cost of post-secondary education.

The following are excerpts from the Federation’s post-Budget 2018 analysis:

- Despite over $28 billion in public student debt, and average tuition rates in some provinces exceeding $8,000 per year for a domestic undergraduate student, the federal government once again failed to invest meaningfully in post-secondary education.

- Student victories included:
  - $1.7 billion over five years for fundamental research, which includes $1.2 billion in funding to the three granting councils (SSHRC, NSERC, CIHR), new funding for Canada Research Chairs, and other programs.
  - A National Framework to Address Gender-Based Violence at Post-Secondary Institutions at $5.5 million over five years.
  - For student parents:
    - New Employment Insurance Parental Sharing Benefit of 5 weeks paid “use it or lose it” second parent leave.
    - No new investments in childcare
• For student workers:
  • A commitment to table pay equity legislation for federally regulated sectors
  • Five days of paid domestic violence leave for federally regulated sectors
  • $448.5 million over five years for the Youth Employment Strategy
  • A new Pre-Apprenticeship Program at $46 million over five years
  • A new Apprenticeship Incentive Grant for Women at $19.9 million over five years
  • $16 million over two years to work with experts and public sector unions to create a new federal government pay system, plus $431.4 million over six years to address current issues with the Phoenix pay system.
• For International, Racialized, and Indigenous Students:
  • $23 million over two years to the Multiculturalism Program for a new national anti-racism approach to address rising racist and xenophobic sentiments
  • $10 million investment for Métis post-secondary education

Therefore, while Budget 2018 failed to address many of the Federation’s core demands, new investments in research, efforts to address campus gender-based violence, and other investments are a reflection of students’ tireless work.

HARM REDUCTION – PUBLIC HEALTH CONSULTATION

On April 4th, National Campaigns Coordinator Greg Owens participated in consultation with Ottawa Public Health officials over current offerings of harm reduction services and where more resources are needed.

COPYRIGHT

On April 17th, National Deputy Chairperson Charlotte Kiddell presented her testimony to the Standing Committee on Industry, Science and Technology for their Statutory Review of the Copyright Act.

On April 24th, Kiddell took a meeting with Parliamentary Secretary, Mr. Sean Casey, to discuss the Federation’s involvement in the Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage’s review of the Copyright Act.
From March 26th-29th, the Federation’s International Students Commissioner, Mary Asekome, met with members of the Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration to present recommendations on how to make post-secondary education more accessible for international students. These included the ending of unfair differential fees, public health coverage from coast to coast, and an expedited pathway to citizenship/permanent residence.

Asekome was joined in meetings by National Researcher Telfer and National Treasurer Veitch.

Meetings were held with the following MPs:
- Mr. Gary Anandasangaree
- Mr. Serge Cormier
- Mr. Larry Maguire
- Mr. Marwan Tabbara
- Ms Niki Ashton

On April 26, National Deputy Chairperson Kiddell took a meeting with Mr. Rob Oliphant, who was unable to meet during Fairness for International Students Week.

MEETING WITH PETER SCHIEFKE

On March 26, National Treasurer Veitch met with MP Peter Schiefke, Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Youth), to present the Federation’s lobby document.
Along with the Council of Canadians, the Federation has continued to exert pressure on the Federal government, and the Minister of Democratic Reform in particular, to pass Bill C-33. Currently stalled after first reading, the Bill would repeal the voter suppression provisions contained in the "Fair Elections Act". On March 26th, the Federation and Council of Canadians held a press conference calling on the government to act with haste so that the 2019 election is held under the new rules.

Chairperson Zachariah met with and took part in a roundtable conversation with Minister Philpott, Grand Chief Bellegarde, organization directors and youth leaders from across the country. At the forum, folks discussed the pervasiveness of under resourced programming around life promotion and the suicide crisis that is plaguing Indigenous communities on Turtle Island.

February 7, 2018 - MP Sheila Malcolmson states her support of the Federation’s work to combat sexual violence on campus.

May 22, 2018 - MP Anne Minh-Thu Quach argues on behalf of the Federation for the elimination of interest rates on Canada Student Loans.

April 19, 2018 - Deputy Chairperson Kiddell presents her testimony to the Standing Committee on Industry, Science and Technology for their Statutory Review of the Copyright Act.

February 9, 2018 - MP Sheri Benson expresses support for students’ Budget 2018 recommendations.
SOLIDARITY
The Assembly of First Nations (AFN) is “a national advocacy organization representing First Nation citizens in Canada, which includes more than 900,000 people living in 634 First Nation communities and in cities and towns across the country.”

On March 15th, Chairperson Zachariah and Executive Director De Jaegher took part in a call with a policy analyst from the AFN where they discussed access to post secondary education for Indigenous learners and future collaboration opportunities.

From February 9th – 18th, Chairperson Zachariah was in Mexico to participate in a conference on Indigenous education and integrated curriculum. He spoke on panels in Mexico City at the Universidad Nacional Autonoma alongside student leaders from Mexico and Honduras. He met with an Indigenous teachers’ union in Oaxaca, met with students and administrators at the University of Vera Cruz and spoke at the Totlahtol Yoltok conference in Orizaba.

This trip was financed through our coalition work with the British Columbia Teachers’ Federation (BCTF).

From March 1st – 4th, Chairperson Zachariah, Ontario Circle representative Steele and Ontario Fieldworker Desnoyers participated in sessions on Indigenous knowledge and tabled for the Federation at Trent University’s annual Elders Gathering.

The NCCIE “has the vision of supporting Indigenous control of Indigenous education in Canada through sustainable and collaborative relationship-building.”

From March 22nd - 23rd, Chairperson Zachariah spoke on a panel about the importance of student involvement in research and on a panel with other youth researchers from across the country. Attendees of the conference included Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Carolyn Bennett, AFN National Chief Perry Bellegarde, elders, professors, and student researchers from across the country.

From January to March, Deputy Chairperson Kiddell sat on the advisory and organizing committees for the Femmy Awards, an International Women’s Day event in Ottawa. On March 8th, Kiddell attended the Femmy Awards and tabled with Federation campaigns materials.

On March 6th, Deputy Chairperson Kiddell attended a press conference against the deportation of Abdoul Abdi. The National Office also participated in a robust digital campaign to fight to stop the deportation of Abdoul Abdi, along with local activists and Muslim Link.
The CLC is the largest labour organization in Canada. It brings together “dozens of nation and international unions, provincial and territorial federations of labour and community-based labour councils to represent 3.3 million workers for more than 50 years.”

On December 7, Treasurer Veitch, Deputy Chairperson Kiddell and Chairperson Zachariah attended a meeting with the National Young Workers Representative from the Canadian Labour Congress to discuss opportunities for partnership in the coming year.

UFCW CANADA: YOUTH INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The United Food and Commercial Workers Canada is a private sector union representing more than a quarter million Canadian workers. “More than 40 percent of the membership is under the age of 30, making UFCW Canada the country's most youthful worker organization”.

National Treasurer Veitch and Executive Director De Jaegher presented to UFCW Canada’s Youth Internship Program about lobbying and communications.

DAY OF ACTION IN SUPPORT OF TIM HORTON’S WORKERS

In the wake of the new legislation in Ontario around an increased minimum wage for employees, Tim Hortons franchisees tried to take advantage of workers rights by infringing on benefits and break times. The Federation took part in solidarity actions outside of a Tim Hortons location in downtown Ottawa to show solidarity with workers. We also utilized our social media to spread awareness and share our stance on the unfair attack on workers’ benefits.

GIVE ME A ^ BREAK!

On February 28th, Deputy Chairperson Kiddell participated in an Equal Pay Summit co-organized by the Equal Pay Coalition of Ontario, the Canadian Labour Congress, and other partners in the labour movement. Folks discussed the inclusion of pay equity legislation in Budget 2018 and plans to mobilize for Equal Pay Day.

EQUAL PAY SUMMIT

On March 28th, Federation researcher Rick Telfer met with Erika Shaker, Director of

CANADIAN CENTRE FOR POLICY ALTERNATIVES

The CCPA is a non corporate-funded policy thin tank and “one of Canada’s leading sources of progressive policy ideas.” Their work is “rooted in the values of social justice and environmental sustainability”.

On March 28th, Federation researcher Rick Telfer met with Erika Shaker, Director of
Education and Outreach for the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA), to discuss new ways in which the CCPA’s education research program could benefit the Federation.

Telfer identified the following areas in which more research is needed: (1) nationwide data about community colleges; (2) long-term impacts of student debt on individuals and wider society, including intersectional and life course analyses; (3) how shifting the cost of post-secondary education onto students and families has contributed to the shrinking of the middle class in Canada; (4) the importance of retirement security given the rise of precarious work and skyrocketing education-related debt loads; (5) the impact of new international trade agreements on education; and, (6) the predatory practices of banks as well as alternatives to private, for-profit banking.

Telfer also suggested that the Federation and the CCPA could work together to create a national network of researchers and policy analysts specializing in post-secondary education — primarily for the purpose of information-sharing.

JUSTICE FOR INDIGENOUS FAMILIES

On March 9th, National Chairperson Zachariah participated in a solidarity action with the Graduate Students’ Association at Carleton University with students and community members. Students and staff marched from the university to RCMP headquarters in Vanier to deliver a list of demands focused on equity and justice for the families of the murdered youth. Fuelling this action were the two very public court decisions that allowed the murderers of Tina Fontaine and Colten Boushie to walk free, while families and communities carry the trauma of loss and injustice.

UNITED STATES STUDENT ASSOCIATION

The USSA is the United States’ oldest and largest national student association dedicated to building power for students. They “develop grassroots campus bases, run strategic campaigns, and train leaders to dismantle systems of oppression in higher education through a framework of education justice”.

From April 6th – 9th, Chairperson Zachariah attended the USSA’s National Student Power Summit in Washington, D.C. He spoke on a panel with USSA President Garcia and UNAM student leader Luis about organizing across borders. During the conference he went to a training on Anti-Blackness, sessions on lobbying tactics, networked and strategized with 150 American students from colleges and universities across the country. The weekend ended with a special meeting with Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders.
INDIGENOUS YOUTH VOICES

Indigenous Youth Voices is an initiative “led by Indigenous youth for Indigenous youth.” This group is formulating and report and recommendations on the implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Call to Action 66: “We call upon the federal government to establish multi-year funding for community-based youth organizations to deliver programs on reconciliation, and establish a national network to share information and best practices”. This report will be presented to the Minister of Indigenous-Crown Relations and Northern Affairs.

From November 30th – December 2nd, Chairperson Zachariah met with Indigenous youth leaders from across the country to provide a report to the Liberal government about their progress with TRC calls to action. The network is ongoing and in coming months will provide a road map document on what real reconciliation can look like.

NOT ONE MORE INDIGENOUS CHILD MARCH

“Not One More Indigenous Child” was a continuous 24-hour vigil that was maintained outside of the Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada office in downtown Toronto for over 142 days. “Under the slogan #NOMIC (Not One More Indigenous Child) the vigil has been honoring victims of the ongoing Indigenous youth suicide crisis and demanding real, meaningful responses.”

CUPE – ONTARIO RACIAL JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS CONFERENCE

“CUPE-Ontario is the political wing of the Canadian Union of Public Employees - Canada’s largest union – in the country’s largest province.” CUPE Ontario represents over 258,000 members.

From December 11th-14th, CFS-Services staff person Nicole Picton attended this CUPE conference in Toronto, Ontario. Delegates enjoyed panels and discussions on topics such as Taking Action for Racial Justice, Stories of Courage, Stronger Political Voice and Building Bridges Towards Solidarity.
KINDER MORGAN PIPELINE

On Tuesday, April 23rd Federation representatives attended a rally against the Kinder Morgan Pipeline. The rally disrupted a keynote address by Jim Carr, Minister of Natural Resources, at an event titled “Public Confidence in Energy Decision-Making: How is Canada Doing?” Kiddell gave remarks expressing students' support for pipeline resistance and contextualizing the $2 billion Kinder Morgan bailout within the context of chronic underfunding for post-secondary education.

MUSKRAT FALLS
SOLIDARITY

The Labrador Land Protectors oppose the installation of a dam at Muskrat Falls in Labrador, Canada and are “Protectors of land, water, and life!”

On May 7th, Federation representatives attended the Ottawa event for the national day of action in solidarity with Labrador Land Protectors. The Federation donated water bottles from the Ethical Purchasing Network for Labrador Land Protector, Angus Andersen, to use during the event.

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION
OF UNIVERSITY TEACHERS

Founded in 1951, the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) is the national voice for academic staff. Today, representing 68,000 teachers, librarians, researchers, general staff and other academic professionals, CAUT is an outspoken defender of academic freedom and works actively in the public interest to improve the quality and accessibility of post-secondary education in Canada.

The Federation is continuing to work with the CAUT on our joint campaign on copyright, among other issues.
OVERVIEW OF SERVICES

The Federation organizes services to save students’ time and money and save students’ union money so more funds can go to support campus groups, events and local services.

SWAP WORKING HOLIDAYS
Canada’s largest international work exchange program for students and youth.
While the number of outbound participants has decreased, the number of inbound participants (International travelers coming to Canada) in 2017 increased compared to totals for 2016. The Canadian government increased the number of visas issued to SWAP exclusively and changed the mandatory student status eligibility requirements to include non-students, opening the program up to larger numbers of international youth.
SWAP has partnered with a new German agency and another British agency for 2018. Additional program options have been included such as airport transfer service and new farm/ranch stay programs.

HANDBOOK AND DAY PLANNER SERVICE
High-quality, affordable dayplanners for students’ unions that include a calendar, local campus section and Federation section. Last year, the program was used by 36 member local student associations.
For the 2018-19 period, the Federation has partnered with MPH Printing company based in Toronto, a fully unionized shop. In keeping with our commitment to produce environmentally conscious materials, the program produces handbooks with 30% post-consumer recycled paper and with vegetable ink.

SEXUAL HEALTH PRODUCTS PROGRAM
Access to sexual health products including condoms, lube and dental dams at reduced prices. The Federation orders these products through PAMCO Distributing Inc.

FREE TAX FILING
Access to free online tax filing for students through UFileFree.ca using promo code CFS1981.
A consortium for health and dental insurance that uses the combined purchasing power of Federation members to secure lower rates and better coverage.

**HEALTH & DENTAL PLAN RENEWALS**

Member local health and dental plan renewals have been conducted with participating member locals. The Network has been successfully able to negotiate with Green Shield Canada on the entire student block of health and dental plans. These negotiations were supplemented by reevaluating the calculations Green Shield Canada undertakes to determine the renewal costs. The Federation is proud to present that the National Student Health Network has successfully negotiated over $340,000.00 in savings for participating members for the 2018-19 renewal period. Member locals have been able to use these savings to bring more benefit enhancements to their plans without having to agree to further increases.

All locals have been provided their negotiated renewal and are currently reviewing through their necessary channels. It is noteworthy that this process is ahead of schedule and will allow member locals to receive 2018-19 plan member and promotional materials earlier.

**CONSOLIDATED GRADUATE STUDENTS HEALTH & DENTAL BENEFITS TRUST PLAN**

A final plan design for the Consolidated Graduate Students Health & Dental Trust Plan has been completed by the Network. This plan has been created with the anticipated participation of four graduate students’ member locals and brings additional plan enhancements while adding greater stability. This includes much greater coverage to assist those with the greatest need.

The plan design has been presented to all anticipated member locals and the Network is currently assisting these locals with gaining a better understanding of the plan. This includes how the plan came to be, why it is beneficial, and how the plan will be governed.
The Network has been able to ensure all participating member locals will be able to benefit from the recent panCanadian Pharmaceutical pricing plan changes that took effect April 1, 2018 for their 2018-19 plan renewal. These pricing changes have resulted in the price reduction of 70 generic drugs. For participating member locals in Ontario, the Network negotiated with Green Shield Canada to calculate OHIP+ savings in an alternate manner, which resulted in even further savings for 2018-19 plan renewals.

Once the health and dental plan renewal process is complete, the Federation will conduct a brand refresh of the National Student Health Network. This refresh will include more resources that all member locals will be able to use when navigating their health and dental plans. Components of this project will include building better servicing resources for participating member locals, resources to attract new member locals to participate, and resources for all member locals that can be used to gain a better understanding of their health and dental plans.
Website, email and mailing list services for member local students’ unions.

The Federation is actively transitioning participating website service member locals to an updated web server and updated version of the Wordpress content management system. This transition will move locals away from the existing multi-site system so that they each will have their own installation. This will allow each participating member local to have greater autonomy over their website and will reduce costs for the Federation to maintain.

The Federation will begin transitioning the email hosting and management service from Rackspace to Google. This transition will bring the powerful web features that the Google suite offers, all at no cost to the Federation.

Ethically manufactured, environmentally-friendly and high-quality products, such as pens, water bottles and t-shirts at reduced prices for students’ unions and campus groups. Textiles are produced through our partnership with the Single Mother’s Cooperative of El Salvador.

The 2018-19 orientation ordering period launched April 18, 2018. The earlier launch date provided ample time for member locals to organize and submit their orders on time, providing the appropriate time required to process orders and ensure a scheduled delivery.
Student discount card providing over 150,000 discounts worldwide, including over 1,000 across the country. Federation members receive the card for free.

For the 2018 calendar year, ISIC issuing online has increased. More members and non-members are ordering their card online and having it delivered. Local issuing has subsided from this time last year. Feedback provided by some locals is that printing physical cards is a cumbersome process and that members are being directed to order cards online.

A new issuing platform is being piloted by the Federation that will see the ability to issue cards virtually, without the need to print a physical card. This will allow members to receive a notification of their new card by email which will prompt them to download and use the mobile app. The benefit of a virtual card is that students keep it on their smartphone and do not need to carry around a plastic card. It also gives students instant access to an updated benefit listing within the app.

Besides the benefits that members will receive with a virtual ISIC, the Federation and member locals will also see added value. Member locals will have the ability to instantly issue a card to a member without the need to be trained on how to use a printer. Printer supplies and general ware will be eased as there will be less printing.

The virtual card can be issued to individual students at point of sales in member local offices or by bulk uploading member information. By bulk uploading member information, a member local can issue cards to their entire membership in a very quick and cost-effective manner. The Federation is currently developing resources that member locals will be able to use to facilitate efficient bulk issuing of virtual cards.
ONLINE PROMOTION

ISIC social media channels continue to drive traffic to engage with the brand. The Federation has been actively tracking engagement and how it leads to website visits, card orders, and benefit redemption.

Monthly email newsletters have been consistently sent to cardholders to increase awareness of new and current benefits added to the portfolio. Reporting on these newsletters see students engaging in benefit redemption and new card orders.

With the assistance of advertising networks, the Federation has been able to display ISIC adverts to students using specific keywords during their online search. This has resulted in more conversions for students interested in a travel, lifestyle, and discount card.

BENEFIT GROWTH

Federation staff are currently engaging with a variety of partners to grow the benefit portfolio to include larger and more well-known brands. The goal of this growth project is increase the amount of benefits available to cardholders online. This will complement the benefit portfolio to include both in-person and online discounts.

Below is a table featuring some of these new benefits:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefit Provider</th>
<th>Benefit Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kobo</td>
<td>8 CAD off your first eBook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bentley</td>
<td>15% off online purchase</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shopify</td>
<td>Special Offer from Shopify</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adidas</td>
<td>Up to 30% off *exclusive to ISIC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian War Museum</td>
<td>20% off Adult Admission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Museum of History</td>
<td>20% off Adult Admission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada’s Sports Hall of Fame</td>
<td>25% off regular price admission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Museum of Nature</td>
<td>12 CAD Student Rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hockey Hall of Fame</td>
<td>3 CAD off general admission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travelodge</td>
<td>15% discount off Best Available/Rack rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doubletree by Hilton London</td>
<td>15% discount off Best Available/Rack rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Days Inn and Suites</td>
<td>15% discount off Best Available/Rack rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality Inn &amp; Suites</td>
<td>15% discount off Best Available/Rack rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holiday Inn</td>
<td>15% discount off Best Available/Rack rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Super 8</td>
<td>15% discount off Best Available/Rack rate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**BENEFIT RENEWALS**

Benefit provider renewals have been completed for the 2018 year. All providers have been contacted and benefit listings have been updated to reflect any modifications. All renewal packages included new ISIC promotional materials and stickers for businesses to use to promote ISIC.

**COBRANDING**

The ISIC program welcomes cobranding opportunities for students’ unions to bring the ISIC to more of their members. ISIC is able to cobrand with transit passes, health plan cards, institution ID cards, and so on. Card technology is also possible, with the ability to integrate controlled access functionality and tap.

Among many benefits to cobranding, two that should be highlighted are:

- Cobranding allows a students’ union to provide a $20 savings to every single member of their local.
- Through a cobrand, ISIC is able to gain more cardholders at once. This is critical to convince potential benefit partners that they need to offer a benefit to cardholders. The more cardholders, the better benefits.

**STUDENTSAVER CARD**

Discount card so part-time students can access Canadian ISIC discounts.
When the Federation was founded in 1981, the national membership fee was set at $2.00 per student per semester. In 1992, member locals voted to increase the fee from $2.00 to $3.00. At the same time, a bylaw was adopted stipulating that, starting in 1996, the fee would be adjusted each academic year by the rate of change in the Canadian Consumer Price Index (CPI) during the previous calendar year. The Federation’s national membership fee for the current academic year is $4.57 per student per semester.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

When the Federation was founded in 1981, Between national general meetings, the National Executive, along with the staff of the organization, manages the Federation’s projects and implements the vision outlined by members.

National Chairperson: Coty Zachariah
National Deputy Chairperson: Charlotte Kiddell
National Treasurer: Peyton Veitch
British Columbia Representative: Jenelle Davies
Alberta Representative: Vacant

Saskatchewan Representative: Heather O’Watch
Manitoba Representative: Dele Ojewole
Ontario Representative: Sami Pritchard
Québec Representative: Vacant
New Brunswick Representative: Bipin Kumar
Nova Scotia Representative: Aidan McNally
Prince Edward Island Representative: Ashley McKibbon
Newfoundland and Labrador Representative: Sofia Descalzi
Circle of First Nations, Métis & Inuit Students Representative: Sadie-Phoenix Lavoie
College & Institutes Representative: Aran Armutlu
Graduate Students’ Representative: Jenna Amirault
Francophone Students’ Representative: Hadi Wess
Racialized Students’ Representative: Leila Moumouni-Tchouassi
Students with Disabilities Representative: Matt Barter
Women’s Representative: Jade Peek
During the reporting period, the Federation employed short term contract staff to assist with administrative and field work. The Federation also employs a part-time ISIC Sales Agent to assist with processing orders and responding to inquiries.

Communications Coordinator: Juhi Sohani
Campaigns Coordinator: Greg Owens
Director of Services: Corey Grist
Executive Director: Justine De Jaegher
Finance Director: Lesley Griffiths
Internal Coordinator: Laura Rashotte

ISIC Administration and Operations Coordinator: Nicole Picton
ISIC Benefits and Communications Coordinator: Raven Davidson
ISIC Sales Agent: Shamini Ruthiranathan
National Student Health Network Coordinator: Vincent St-Martin
Organizer (Manitoba): Brianne Goertzen
Organizer (Maritimes): Grant MacNeil
Organizer (Maritimes): Sarah Trower
Organizer (Newfoundland & Labrador): Alyse Stuart
Researcher: Rick Telfer
Services Coordinator (Ethical Purchasing): Benjamin Segobaetso
Translator: Geneviève Charest

MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

Since November, the Federation’s media presence has increased significantly. Members of the National Executive have appeared in several high-profile news publications, as well as television and radio shows, to share the views and work of the national student movement with a constantly expanding audience.
Sentiment data for traditional media shows that comments about the Federation are almost consistently neutral. Robust analysis shows that this is caused by the Federation being referred to by sources as an expert on, and a reference for, topics like student interest, tuition fees, sexual violence policy, among others.

The digital launch of the CSLP: Not In Our Interest campaign resulted in a burst of media requests and appearances during the month of May. Overall, the campaign has seen an excellent cross-partisan, and cross-country, response from thousands of current, future and past post-secondary students.

The Star

Charlotte Kiddell, national deputy chairperson for the Canadian Federation of Students, said the government’s vision for gender equality “misses the mark” by failing to address student debt and high tuition costs. She said the majority of people with student debt are women, and that the cost of education is a barrier to participation in key, high-paying sectors of the economy.

“Women also will take longer to pay back loans due to the gender wage gap,” she said. “Failing to allow women to access education is impeding women from entering the workforce.”

National Post

Canadian Federation of Students wary of Liberal threat over campus sex assault

The Star

Chairperson Zachariah discusses Indigenous access to post-secondary education on the Agenda with Steve Paikin.

National Post

“Students are troubled to see the government’s failure to repeal voter suppression elements of the so-called Fair Elections Act passed under the Conservatives government,” said Justine De Jaeger of the students’ group. “This Liberal government made a promise to repeal these elements and, despite introducing Bill C-33 to do just this, the legislation has been languishing for nearly a year and a half.”